



BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

An East Campus resident operates the tilt-a-whirl ride at East Campus' Sunday-night courtyard party. Attractions included a "frosh wash," four-story fort, a swing set, a rotating rock wall, and a dance floor.

PAC formed; PTAC report is available

First 8-member 'Presidential Advisory Cabinet' is created

By Anne Cai
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In July, the Presidential Transition Advisory Cabinet (PTAC) released its public report with recommendations for MIT president L. Rafael Reif. Formed in July 2012 and operating since August 2012, the PTAC centered its recommendations around three themes — "The MIT Educational Experience," "Community — Places, Resources, People" and "Support and Engagement," and "The Residential Campus of the 21st Century." With the release of the report, the Graduate Student Council (GSC) and Undergraduate Association (UA) began soliciting applications for a new Institute Committee, the Presidential Advisory Cabinet (PAC), of four undergraduate and four graduate representatives.

This first PAC consists of graduate students Maria A. Berzina G, Aalap S. Dighe G, and Jason J. Gonzales G, and undergraduate students Thomas D. Alcorn '14, Caitlin A. Mackey '15, and Elise M. Myers '14, with GSC president Caleb J. Waugh G and UA president Sidhanth P. Rao '14 serving ex officio. Members were selected through the GSC nominations board and UA nominations committee, and will serve for one-year terms, beginning on July 1 of each year. The cabinet will serve the MIT president in a "purely advisory capacity on various issues iden-

PTAC, Page 11

News recap: key summer stories

Abelson's Swartz report, dorm security changes, and more

As you settle onto campus, you may wonder what changes happened over the summer. Here's a summary of some of the topics *The Tech* has covered to get you up to speed.

Swartz report released

On July 30, MIT released its highly anticipated report on the Institute's involvement in the federal prosecution of the late Internet activist Aaron Swartz. The report found that the Institute maintained "neutrality" during Swartz's prosecution, but missed a chance to show "leadership" in the two years before his suicide in January.

The report came six months after MIT president L. Rafael Reif asked computer science professor Hal Abelson PhD '73 to conduct an independent investi-

gation into the Swartz case.

Following Swartz's death, MIT came under fire from commentators who saw MIT as party to an unfairly aggressive government prosecution. Swartz had been charged with 13 felony counts after downloading millions of JSTOR articles to a laptop secretly hooked up to a network switch in a Building 16 basement closet. At one point, his actions prompted JSTOR to cut off MIT's access to its content for three days.

The report found that MIT did not purposefully "call in the feds," made no public statements for or against the government's prosecution, sought no punishment for Swartz, and responded similarly, for the most part, to requests from the prosecution and

Summer recap, Page 12

Man struck by MBTA Red Line — third death this summer

Service on the Red Line was suspended for much of Saturday morning after a 30-year-old Asian man was struck and killed at Broadway station. *The Boston Herald* reported that he was struck by an inbound train at about 8:30 a.m. His death is still under investigation by the transit police.

This is the third death on the Red Line this summer. On the morning of July 6, a male in his 30s was struck by the train at

Davis Square, halting service until mid-afternoon. He was pronounced dead when he arrived at the hospital. In an unrelated incident, an 80-year-old woman was struck by a train at Kendall/MIT station on the afternoon of July 21. *The Boston Globe* reported that the woman "did not fall, nor was she pushed" onto the tracks. Service was significantly delayed for about an hour as a result of the incident.

—Stan Gill

IN SHORT

Online Registration is now open! Input and confirm your choice of classes and meet with your advisor anytime between now and Friday, Sept. 6 to avoid a late fee.

FYRE Applications are open until Wednesday at 2 a.m. for freshmen wishing to switch living groups. Enter the lottery at <https://odysseyhms-web.mit.edu/hmswebstudent/>. Results will be available on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Taking an Advanced Standing Exam for freshman classes? Here are the dates for the next four: 18.02 and 8.01, Today, 8–11 a.m.; Chemistry, Wednesday 8–11 a.m.; Biology, Friday 8–11 a.m.

The freshmen orientation swim test is this Thursday at the Z Center pool. Time slots are every hour from 1–4 p.m. Check your orientation materials for your assigned time slot. Be sure to bring your MIT ID!

PE Registration opens Wednesday at 8 a.m. Visit mitpe.com to register. Wake up early to ensure you get the class that you want!

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.



JESSICA L. WASS—THE TECH

LaVerde's Market undergoes renovations during orientation for the second year in a row.

JOIN THE TECH!

Love writing? Web or print layout and design? Creating interactive visuals? Photography? More? There's a place for you at *The Tech*!

PASSING OF KENNETH STEVENS

EECS professor emeritus, 89, died on Aug. 19. **NEWS, p. 9**

HISTORIAN MAIER DIES AT 75

MIT faculty since 1978, Pauline Maier died on Aug. 12. **NEWS, p. 10**



EAST VS. WEST: WATER WAR 2013

The East and West sides of campus engage in the annual battle.

PHOTO, p. 7

MY STOLEN TOOTHPASTE

And an ensuing moral dilemma — the travails of living in a dorm.

CAMPUS LIFE, p. 8

SECTIONS

World & Nation . . . 2
Opinion 4
Fun Pages 5
Campus Life 8

Iran’s pick for nuclear talks carries hope of eased tensions

By **Thomas Erdbrink**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

TEHRAN, Iran — Until this summer, Mohammad Javad Zarif, one of Iran’s most accomplished diplomats, was an outcast, exiled from the government by ultraconservatives for working too closely with the West. Rather than presenting the Iranian case to the world, as he had done so effectively throughout a 35-year diplomatic career, he was spending his days teaching at the Foreign Ministry’s training center on a quiet, leafy campus in North Tehran.

That changed with the election of the moderate president, Hasan Rouhani, in June. Now, Zarif is the country’s new foreign minis-

ter and seems virtually certain to lead Iran’s delegation in nuclear negotiations with the West — further indications, analysts say, that Rouhani is serious about reducing tensions with the United States and other Western countries.

“Mr. Zarif is the new face of a new policy,” said Davoud Hermidas-Bavand, a professor of international relations at Allameh Tabatabaei University in Tehran, who knows Zarif personally. “Our former foreign policy obviously did not yield any results and was clearly doomed. We need to revise our former methods and soften our stances in order to find a solution to the nuclear problem and reduce the sanctions.”

Previous negotiations over

Iran’s nuclear program have broken down on the West’s insistence that the country’s government first stop enriching uranium, which world powers suspect is a first step to developing nuclear weapons. The Iranians have maintained just as steadfastly that they have the right to enrich uranium for fuel to power reactors and other peaceful uses. Now, this diplomatic logjam may be giving way, analysts say.

“We can be sure that Mr. Zarif — if he gets to handle the nuclear issue — will quickly and officially propose ideas such as Iran ending enrichment up to 20 percent as a compromise,” said François Nicoullaud, a former French ambassador to Tehran who often met with Zarif.

Under Obama, little progress on high-level jobs for women

By **Annie Lowrey**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Behind the roiling conversation over whether President Barack Obama might make Janet L. Yellen the first female leader of the Federal Reserve is an uncomfortable reality for the White House: the administration has named no more women to high-level executive branch posts than the Clinton administration did almost two decades ago.

The White House has taken steps to even its gender balance in recent

months with high-profile nominations like Samantha Power as ambassador to the United Nations and Susan E. Rice as national security adviser. But by most measures of gender diversity, including the proportion of women at Cabinet level, the executive branch looks little different from 20 years ago, even as the House of Representatives, the Senate and corporate America have placed significantly more women in senior roles.

“There’s room for improvement, and we’ve seen some missed opportunities,” said Debbie Walsh, the

director for the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. “We’re all watching the Fed to see what will happen there.”

Obama is choosing from a small pool of candidates for the Federal Reserve position — probably the most important economic appointment he will make in his second term. The finalists include Yellen, the Fed’s current vice chairwoman and a former Clinton administration official. The favored candidate among several top Obama aides is Lawrence H. Summers, the former Treasury secretary and Obama economic adviser.

Romance adds to intrigue at an ex-Chinese leader’s trial

JINAN, China — Concluding a trial that has riveted China, Bo Xilai, the former elite Communist Party official, attacked elements of the prosecution’s case Monday and said his former top deputy and his wife, both of whom provided evidence against him, had a passionate relationship with each other.

Bo said the charges of bribery, embezzlement and abuse of power against him were deeply flawed because they depended on evidence from his wife, Gu Kailai, and his former top deputy, Wang Lijun, who he suggested were themselves involved with the abuses Bo was accused of committing — and with each other.

Wang and Gu “were stuck together as if by glue,” he said in his closing comments.

Bo’s final testimony added to the soap opera-like twists in a trial that provided an unusual showcase of how China manages its legal system. Bo, 64, who was stripped of his membership in China’s ruling Politburo last year, is nearly certain to be found guilty.

But he was given considerable leeway to defend himself in extended and colorful testimony, according to transcripts of the trial that were circulated by the court and that appeared widely in state media.

—Edward Wong, *The New York Times*

Fresh charges for famed thief of period silver

ATLANTA — Even before a thief carefully removed a window-pane from a mansion here one rainy June night and slipped away with a 1734 silver mug that had belonged to George II, it was clear to detectives that a meticulous thief with a singular obsession was stealing the great silver pieces of the Old South.

For months, exquisite sterling silver collections had been disappearing, taken in the dead of night from historic homes in Charleston, SC, and the wealthy enclaves of Belle Meade, Tenn. Nothing else was touched.

The police in different states did not at first connect the thefts, some of which initially went unnoticed even by the owners. But as the burglaries piled up, a retired New Jersey detective watching reports on the Internet recognized a familiar pattern.

He called an Atlanta detective and said, “Let me explain how your burglaries occurred.”

Early Monday, outside an apartment building in the tiny northern Florida town of Hilliard, the police arrested Blane Nordahl, the man they believe is connected not only to the recent Southern silver burglaries but also to 30 years’ worth of antique silver thefts in several states.

He was charged with burglaries in Atlanta and will most likely face charges in other states.

—Kim Severson, *The New York Times*



Council
for the Arts
at MIT

GRANTS FOR THE ARTS

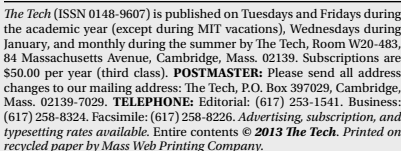


DEADLINE SEPT 27, 2013

Artwork by Anastasia Azure in collaboration with Dr. Larry Pratt, photograph courtesy of the artist

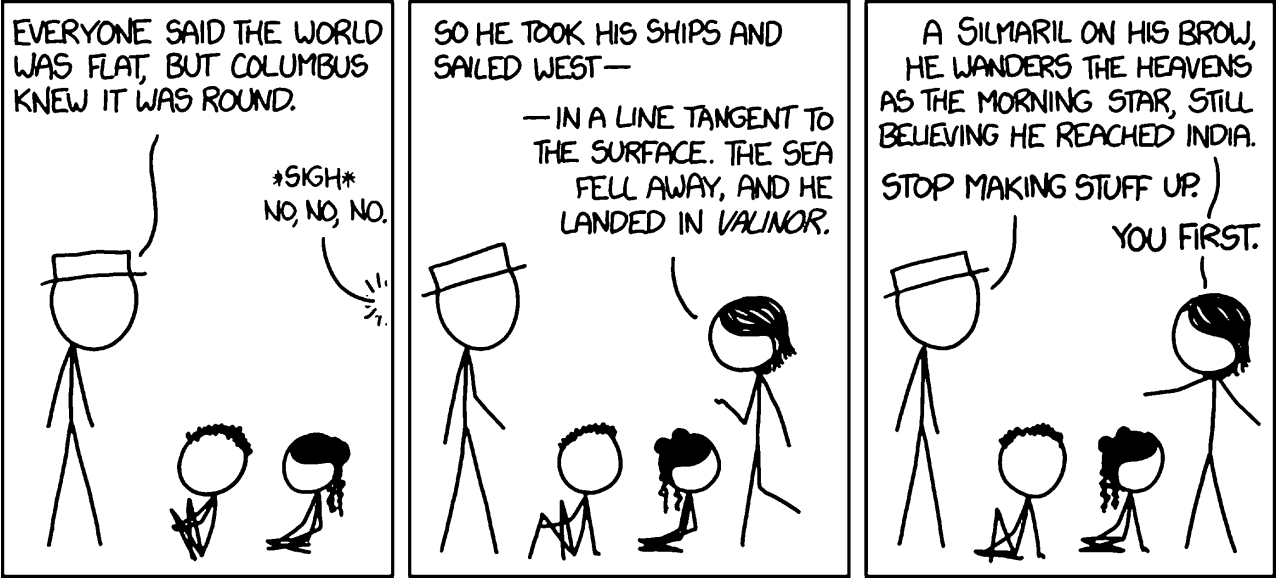
All currently registered MIT students, faculty, and staff are eligible to apply

arts.mit.edu/participate/grants/



The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Email is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by emailing eic@tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@tech.mit.edu. *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://tech.mit.edu>.

[1255] Columbus



And thus was smallpox introduced into the previously Undying Lands.



Saturday Stumper by Anna Stiga

Solution, page 9

- ACROSS**
- 1 Consumer advocate
 - 9 Brewers once worked there
 - 15 Highly ambitious
 - 16 Servicing convenience
 - 17 Orchestrate
 - 18 Captured, in a way
 - 19 ___ low
 - 20 Language that gave us “boondocks”
 - 22 Part of Georgia Tech regalia
 - 23 Purveyor of tees, wedges and bags
 - 25 Repeated design
 - 26 Cut down
 - 27 Peace Nobelist before Mother Teresa
 - 29 Pocket
 - 30 Yellowish-red
 - 31 Day’s two doz.
 - 33 Say when
 - 35 Post
 - 39 Had a blowout
 - 40 A satellite dish’s size is often compared to it
 - 42 Hot ___
 - 43 Shakespeare’s tree rescuer
 - 44 Jobs innovation
 - 46 Just My Size sister brand
 - 50 Succeeded, with “off”
 - 51 1001 Arabian Nights characters
 - 53 Inadvisable activity
 - 54 Source of low-fat meat
 - 55 Crowd-surfing venue
 - 57 Joey’s mom, or any kid’s
 - 58 Cheated

- 60 Less than once
 - 62 Having missed the boat
 - 63 Sound investment
 - 64 Declined, as crafts
 - 65 Wrong
- DOWN**
- 1 Exercises
 - 2 Name on six Vare Trophies
 - 3 Random scrap
 - 4 Frat letter
 - 5 Track
 - 6 Day follower
 - 7 Its state seal has a covered wagon and steamer
 - 8 Takes turns
 - 9 Detached
 - 10 Marathon
 - 11 What may be found between two dogs
 - 12 Talent scout’s rave
 - 13 Disjoined
 - 14 Betrayed apprehension
 - 21 About a kilogram of mixer
 - 24 A Toy Is Born subject
 - 26 Alert status
 - 28 Provisional
 - 30 Trivial pursuit
 - 32 One use for bread
 - 34 “Sweet” symbol of the South
 - 35 Parting-word facilitator
 - 36 Zuppa Inglese cousin
 - 37 Surveyor’s measurements
 - 38 City northwest of Marseilles
 - 41 Distinguished Flying Cross recipient of ‘32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13	14
15									16					
17									18					
19				20				21				22		
23			24		25						26			
27				28		29				30				
			31		32		33		34					
35	36	37				38		39						
40							41		42					
43						44		45		46		47	48	49
50					51				52		53			
54				55						56		57		
58			59				60				61			
62							63							
64							65							

- 45 Eggbeater
- 47 Hourly sight at an outdoor Coventry clock
- 48 Whom Tolkien once called “High Elves”
- 49 They’re taken on long drives
- 51 Partitioned, in a way
- 52 Starting-date preceder
- 55 “A ___ trifle consoles us”: Pascal
- 56 Web sites, at times
- 59 Shaver
- 61 It’s felt for some pointers



6					8	1		
	5	4	1		9	6	8	3
					3			
	7					2		1
			3		7			
1		5					4	
			9					
7	8	6	2		1	5	3	
		9	7					6

96x			3x	5÷	6
6	5x				2
30x		30x		12x	
	2		288x		5
	60x		6+		1
6x					3

PAGE 11

1



Water War 2013

2



1. West Campus forces rally behind their wooden duck as they rush the forces from the East.

2. An East Campus resident announces their arrival by blowing a vuvuzela.

3. Forces from the East arrive en masse shortly before the beginning of the war,
- sporting handmade signs and a variety of water-flinging devices.

4. A West Campus resident rallies morale from other participants running and waving a flag.

5. The war wages fiercely as both sides rush forward and begin throwing water in earnest.

PHOTOS BY JESSICA L. WASS AND BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

3



4



5



Of toothpaste, and the arc of the moral universe

How a theft in Senior House altered my worldview

By Leon Lin
STAFF WRITER

Sometime in June, a discovery in Senior House threw me briefly into a personal crisis. Someone had used my toothpaste.

The thief had not only squeezed the toothpaste from the middle of the tube, but had also managed to smear it all over the outside of the opening.

I finished brushing my teeth, went back to my room, fished out my Sharpie, and wrote a kind note saying that an unwelcome mixture of water and toothpaste had been observed trapped underneath the cap. The note also advised residents to use their own toothpaste, if possible.

At the end of the note, I included a sad face. (This part required some fiddling with the eccentricity of the oval face in order to make it as endearing as possible.) I left the second draft of the note by my toothpaste in my little cubby shelf in the bathroom.

I found later that week that the entire tube of toothpaste had been stolen.

In the next 48 hours, I missed several chances to buy another tube, which was good news for certain populations of streptococci, staphylococci, and lactobacilli.

The episode left a bad taste in my mouth.

I was trapped in my own living quarters among people I could not trust. I eyed

them suspiciously as we walked past each other in the hallway. For the first time in my life, I kept my toothpaste in my own room. And though I was too lazy to keep the shampoo in my room as well, I did check that its position in the cubby was unchanged whenever I was about to use it.

I had a growing sense that the toothpaste incident, alas, was not related to the subject of a seminal treatise by any eminent philosopher or economist.

And suddenly I felt It within me. I was going to Do Something About It.

Suddenly I knew what it was to march, what it was to burn a draft card, what it was to see the Berlin Wall fall, what it was to Occupy something. Suddenly I was one of We Few, We Happy Few — suddenly I was lifted up by the spirit of Seneca Falls, Selma, and Stonewall; the spirit of the Arab Spring, indeed, of humanity, with all its suffering and with all of its triumphs; the spirit of Flower Power and Pocahontas.

A full orchestra and a throng of French people with British accents materialized behind me and did the refrain to “Do You Hear the People Sing?”

I didn’t get any sympathy from my friends, let alone persuade any of them to enlist.

Why in the world would you keep your stuff in a common bathroom? Yeah, I don’t know anyone who does that. I have a caddy that I keep all my stuff in. It’s so convenient! Yep, I have my own fridge for the same reason.

Seeking to convey the Importance of my experience, and to sound sophisticated, I declared that it was an example of the tragedy of the commons. I mean, the prisoner’s dilemma. Oh wait, that’s not right either. Is it the free rider problem? I looked that up on Wikipedia, just to make sure. I tried to interpret the definition as broadly as possible, but I couldn’t even convince myself that my toothpaste woes were a case of the free rider problem.

I had a growing sense that the toothpaste incident, alas, was not related to the subject of a seminal treatise by any eminent philosopher or economist. Nor were there deep parallels between it and some major historical event permanently embedded in the fabric of a people.

You left your toothpaste out, and it was stolen, a friend explained. Just like the cheesecake, three quarts of ice cream, 20 bags of Sun Chips, two frozen dinners,

pudding, multiple bottles of dish soap, bicycle, bathroom lamp cover, frozen pizza, hotdogs, corndogs, and meatballs that showed up when I searched “sh-summer-13 stolen” in my email.

I guess the toothpaste made some sense.

Later, while showering, nothing was coming out of my inverted container of body wash, so I figured it was again time to add more water. But then I noticed that someone else had left their container of body wash in the shower — the same kind of body wash, in fact. I picked it up. It was nearly full.

This was the moment. Character is what you do when no one’s looking, and all that. Who am I, and what do I stand for?

Well, what I stood for was something like five minutes. Five minutes just staring at the bottle, with the water streaming down, turning the shower into a steam room. Finally I made up my mind. I, Leon Lin, am a weak-willed hypocrite. I clumsily popped the cap open.

There was a gooey clear substance, which may or may not have been body wash, smeared all over the outside of the opening. I dropped the bottle.

Whatever. The arc of the moral universe is long — like, really long. Don’t even bother. The proper reaction to anything is “Meh.” “Psshhhh.” You will graduate and get a job and marry and retire and die.

Carry on.

Solution to Techdoku

from page 6

4	3	2	1	5	6
6	5	4	3	1	2
2	1	6	5	3	4
3	2	1	6	4	5
5	4	3	2	6	1
1	6	5	4	2	3

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

6	3	7	4	2	8	1	9	5
2	5	4	1	7	9	6	8	3
9	1	8	6	5	3	7	2	4
8	7	3	5	9	4	2	6	1
4	6	2	3	1	7	9	5	8
1	9	5	8	6	2	3	4	7
5	4	1	9	3	6	8	7	2
7	8	6	2	4	1	5	3	9
3	2	9	7	8	5	4	1	6

Solution to Crossword

from page 5

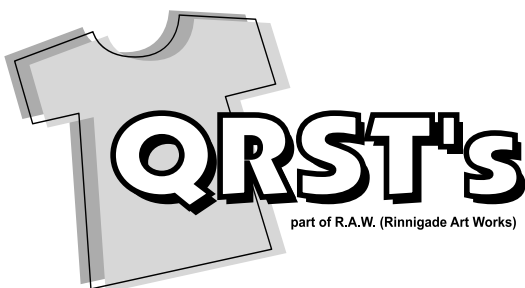
W	A	T	C	H	D	O	G	A	L	E	A	S	T
I	N	A	H	U	R	R	Y	L	O	A	N	E	R
E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R	O	N	T	A	P	E
L	I	E	T	A	G	A	L	O	G	T	A	M	
D	K	N	Y	M	O	T	I	F	C	U	R	B	
S	A	D	A	T	N	E	T	C	O	R	A	L	
		H	R	S	S	E	T	A	D	A	T	E	
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	R	E	V	E	L	E	D
P	I	Z	Z	A	P	I	E	A	I	R			
A	R	I	E	L	M	A	C	L	E	G	G	S	
C	A	M	E	Z	E	R	O	S	D	O	N	T	
E	M	U	M	O	S	H	P	I	T	D	O	E	
B	I	T	T	E	N	A	T	N	O	T	I	M	E
A	S	H	O	R	E	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	R
R	U	S	T	E	D	T	R	E	S	P	A	S	S

T-SHIRTS

...a necessary fact of College!



- Deal direct...no middlemen
- Fast turnaround
- Award winning & computer literate art dept.
- Free delivery & reasonable pricing *Cambridge & Boston Area
- Full color t-shirts and coffee mugs - no minimum!
- Locally owned & operated in Somerville, MA.
- ...and best of all - no boring lectures



ph - 617-625-3335
email - info@qrsts.com
www.qrsts.com
serving the M.I.T. Community since 1989

EVENTS

AUG. 27 – SEPT. 02

TUESDAY

(12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) Japanese Tea Ceremony Lessons (\$10 MIT community, \$5 students) — W4 Green Living Room

(5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) McKinsey & Company Info Session: MIT Happy Hour (RSVP online) — 50 Muddy Charles

WEDNESDAY

(2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.) MIT spouses & partners stroller tour of MIT, snacks afterward — Kendall outbound T

THURSDAY

(10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.) Gelfand Centennial Conference: A View of 21st Century Mathematics — 34-101

FRIDAY

(7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.) Community Shabbat Dinner at Hillel — W11 Main Dining Room

(8:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.) LSC shows *Zero Dark Thirty* (free tickets in Lobby 16)— 26-100

SATURDAY

(9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) Westgate Fall 2013 yard sale — W85 lawn

SUNDAY

(2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.) The Musical Theatre Guild presents AVENUE Q — W16-035 (Kresge Little Theatre)

MONDAY

(8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.) Ashdown House Dessert Night: International Dessert Sampling — NW35-Hulsizer Room

Send your campus events to events@tech.mit.edu.



saves \$1,000 per year on average

compare every online store in one place
new, used, rentals, eBooks
every coupon, every offer

BIGWORDS doesn't sell, rent, or buy anything. BIGWORDS searches every other site, relentlessly. BIGWORDS is your friend who speaks the truth. www.BIGWORDS.com or "BIGWORDS.com" Apps on iPhone, iPad, and Android phones and tablets. BW89

Kenneth Stevens, EECS professor emeritus, 89, dies

Proposed the quantal theory of speech, earning him the National Medal of Science

By **Larry Hardesty**
MIT NEWS OFFICE

Kenneth N. Stevens ScD '52, the Clarence J. LeBel Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, whose pioneering work at the intersection of engineering and linguistics helped earn him the National Medal of Science, died Aug. 19 in Clackamas, Ore., from complications of Alzheimer's disease. He was 89.

Born in Toronto on March 23, 1924, to British-born parents, Stevens lived there until 1948, earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering physics from the University of Toronto. Having lost an eye to cancer when he was four years old, Stevens was ineligible for military service during World War II, but after completing his master's, he stayed at the university for three more years, teaching returning soldiers under the Veterans Rehabilitation Act, the Canadian equivalent of the G.I. Bill. One of these students was his older brother, Pete.

In 1948, Stevens came to MIT as a doctoral student in electrical engineering. He would spend the next 59 years at the Institute, joining the faculty in 1954 and retiring, in 2007, at age 83.

In an oral history recorded for the American Institute of Physics, Stevens recalled that, when he was finishing his master's, "control theory was a big thing, so I did a master's thesis on what we called servomechanisms." He expected that he might continue that work at MIT.

But, as it happened, MIT professor of communications engineering Leo Beranek — also one of the founders of BBN Technologies, a research and development organization that is now a subsidiary of Raytheon Co. — needed a teaching assistant for a class on acoustics. "Beranek noticed that in my vita, I had once taken a course in acoustics, so he got in touch with me and asked if I would be a teaching assistant," Stevens recalled. "So my tran-

sition to acoustics was very much by chance."

Originator of the 'quantal theory of speech'

That chance transition launched him on a career that culminated in his winning of the National Medal of Science in 1999. Stevens is best known for his "quantal theory of speech," which explored why — despite the apparent diversity of sounds across different languages — human speech actually exploits only a small fraction of the sounds that the vocal tract can produce.

In 1952, while Stevens was completing his doctorate, the MIT linguist Morris Halle, together with colleagues Gunnar Fant and Roman Jakobson, proposed that all human speech sounds could be described as combinations of 20-odd "distinctive features," such as the placement of the tip of the tongue, the shape of the tongue, whether the glottis (voice box) was opened or closed, the shape of the lips, and so on.

Stevens, who collaborated closely with all three men, observed that these distinctive features seemed to describe configurations of the vocal tract's "articulators" — such as the tongue, glottis and lips — in which small deviations had little effect on the sounds produced. This is by no means true of all configurations: In most cases, small deviations would actually yield large sonic differences. But, Stevens argued, language users would naturally converge on the more stable configurations, which would lead to greater consistency in sound production.

Quantal theory was not, however, just a theory of speech production; it was also a theory of speech recognition. If humans had a limited repertory of sounds that they could produce reliably, then the auditory system may very well have evolved to key in on them. Stevens spent much of his career indefatigably investigating the implications of quantal theory, both experimentally and through mathematical mod-

eling, frequently in collaboration with Halle and, later, with Samuel Jay Keyser, another MIT linguist.

A draw for graduate students

Along the way, he advised more than 60 graduate students — including four after his retirement, when he and his second wife, Sharon Manuel, moved to Oregon.

"When I was looking for a place to get my doctorate, all I knew was that I wanted to study with Ken Stevens," says Victor Zue, the Delta Electronics Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT. "I didn't come to MIT and then find Ken Stevens. I wanted to study with Ken, and OK, he's at MIT, so I guess that's where I will apply."

"I always remember Ken as an incredibly tolerant advisor," Zue adds. "He always allowed people the latitude to explore areas that weren't central to his own interests." As Dennis Klatt — who developed the speech synthesizer used by Stephen Hawking, among many others, as a researcher in Stevens' group — once put it, "As a leader, Ken is known for his devotion to students and his miraculous ability to run a busy laboratory while appearing to manage by a principle of benevolent anarchy."

Joseph Perkell — who took a summer job in Stevens' group in 1964, returned as a PhD student in 1969, and remained with the group as a research scientist until his own retirement last year — recalls a particularly telling instance of Stevens' devotion his to students. When he began working with Stevens, Perkell was a dental student at Harvard University, and, he recalls, "I did some work that Ken thought would make a good research monograph." After completing his dental degree, however, Perkell went on active

duty for two years as a dental officer in the Army.

"While I was in the Army, Ken took the work that I had done and put it together and wrote it up and submitted it to MIT Press — with just my name on it," Perkell recalls. "So my first publication was a hard-bound research monograph, and I was the sole author, even though he was the one who pulled the writing together. That's the kind of person he was."

Stevens spent 59 years at the Institute, joining the faculty in 1954.

Beyond MIT, a love of the outdoors

Stevens married his first wife, Phyllis, in 1957; together they had four children, two of whom went on to careers in the sciences. Stevens' son Michael, a research physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, recalls that, outside the lab and the classroom, Stevens loved the outdoors — skiing, hiking, camping and canoeing.

Michael Stevens remembers one summer in particular: His parents decided to rent a van and drive from Cambridge to Yellowstone National Park and back, camping out along the way, with their own children and two of their children's friends — "an enormous undertaking, by any measure," he says. "I remember that, lying down in the tent every night, he would put his hands behind his head, and he would say, 'This is the life.'"

When they arrived at Yellowstone, the first night was cold enough that several of the campers took refuge in the van. Michael

Stevens recalls waking early to find his father etching a fake claw print with his fingernail in the frost on the van's windshield. When the rest of the group woke up, he played along with his father's tale of a nocturnal ursine visitation.

Stevens' first marriage ended in divorce in 1981, and in 1994 he married Manuel, a linguist who had received her PhD from Yale University in 1987. In his mid-70s, Stevens became a father again when the couple adopted two infant girls from China. Each of the girls — Kendra and MacKenzie — has her father's first name embedded in hers, along with their mother's surname.

"He was much more active, physically, than I am, so he would do more running around with them," Manuel says. "He was a modern dad. He at least had plans of doing 50 percent of the work around the house." But, she adds, he had some difficulty realizing those plans as, well into his 70s, "he was still working 60, 70 hours a week."

"His personality was unique," Michael Stevens says. "He had no pretensions about him. He had no arrogance about him. He was humble until the very end."

Stevens is survived by his wife, Sharon Manuel, of Clackamas, Ore., and their two children, Kendra and MacKenzie. He is survived by four grown children by his first wife, Phyllis Stevens: Rebecca Stevens of Silver Spring, Md., Andrea Stevens of Schwenksville, Pa., Michael Stevens of Clarksville, Md., and John Stevens of Kenmore, N.Y. Stevens is also survived by five grandchildren.

Stevens' family asks that donations be made in his name to the Alzheimer's Association.

Reprinted with permission of MIT News Office: <http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/>.

Qualifications:

STRONG QUICK-BOOKS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
1+ Years of Bookkeeping experience including A/R, A/P, Payroll and Invoicing
Strong Microsoft Office Experience Required.
Must be a team player
Must be organized

MUST BE ABLE TO PASS A BACKGROUND CHECK AND CREDIT CHECK
Person must be highly organized with files.
email: theemploymentzones@gmail.com

SHOP BACK TO SCHOOL LOOKS FOR LESS!


SHOP THRIFT FIGHT AIDS at BOOMERANGS

CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES, HOUSEWARES, ELECTRONICS, BOOKS, CDS, RECORDS AND MORE!


SHOPBOOMERANGS.ORG

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE

Learn the basics of tango in two days!
<http://tango.mit.edu/workshops/bootcamp.php>



MIT Tango Club presents Beginner Tango Bootcamp



September 07-08, 2013

Path-breaking historian Pauline Maier dies at 75

Her work illuminated the richness and complexity of the origins of democracy in the U.S.

By Peter Dizikes
MIT NEWS OFFICE

The eminent historian Pauline R. Maier, whose award-winning books cast new light on Revolutionary-era America and the foundations of U.S. democracy, died Aug. 12 in Cambridge, Mass., after a battle with lung cancer. She was 75.

Maier, who served as the William Kenan Jr. Professor of History at MIT, had been a member of the Institute's faculty since 1978. Her work often recast conventional wisdom about 18th-century America, reconstructing long-forgotten public debates over the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution while bringing crucial figures in American political history into sharper focus.

Maier's best-known books include "American Scripture: Making the Declaration of Independence" (1997), a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and "Ratification: The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788" (2010), winner of the George Washington Book Prize. Both works demonstrated the vitality of local and state-level political debates at the nation's founding.

Even as Maier's work brought

textbook accounts of American history into question, she herself engaged the greater public by writing new history textbooks for college students and younger students alike — part of a career-long commitment to making history vivid and accessible for all.

"We are deeply saddened to hear of the death of Pauline Maier," said Deborah K. Fitzgerald, the Kenin Sahin Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at MIT. "One of the key intellectual figures in her field, Pauline was also a leader at MIT — a great historian and scholar who understood the pulse of the Institute and helped guide and improve our community in profound ways. Through her research, award-winning publications, and superb teaching, Pauline inspired generations of young historians of the Colonial period. Her classes for MIT undergraduates — for example, on the U.S. Constitution — were learning experiences that her students still remembered decades later. In her classroom, Pauline brilliantly embodied our mission to empower MIT students with cultural and historical perspectives, and an understanding of the world's complexities. We will miss her enormously."

From Revolution to ratification

Pauline Rubbelke was born in St. Paul, Minn., on April 27, 1938. She received her undergraduate degree from Radcliffe College in 1960, majoring in American history and literature, and received a Fulbright Scholarship for study at the London School of Economics the following year. As an undergraduate working at Harvard's student newspaper, the Crimson, she met her future husband, Charles Maier, a historian of modern Europe who is now the Leverett Saltonstall Professor of History at Harvard University; the couple married in 1961, in Oxford, England, and had three children.

Maier pursued her PhD in history at Harvard, and in 1968 completed her dissertation, advised by Bernard Bailyn, on the formation of American opposition to British rule in the decade before the Declaration of Independence. Maier's thesis became the basis for her first book, "From Resistance to Revolution: Colonial Radicals and the Development of American Opposition to Britain, 1765-1776," published in 1972.

After receiving her doctorate, Maier joined the history faculty at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, where she taught from 1968 until 1977. Maier then served on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin for one year before accepting a position as professor of history at MIT. Maier led MIT's history faculty from 1979 to 1988.

Maier's second book, "The Old Revolutionaries: Political Lives in the Age of Samuel Adams," appearing in 1980, looked in depth at the lives of five Revolutionary leaders, including Adams, in the years leading up to 1776. "American Scripture" drew widespread praise for its re-

casting of the public debates over the Declaration of Independence. In it, Maier presented a deep analysis of the founding document's evolution — from statement of revolutionary intent into one of national principles — and discussed dozens of local "declarations of independence" issued in America during 1776. "American Scripture" was named one of the 11 best books of 1997 by The New York Times Book Review.

"Ratification," Maier's most recent book, reconstructed and examined the often-tempestuous state-level debates over the ratification of the U.S. Constitution — which greatly strengthened the nation, then financially weak, by adding elements such as taxing powers, while also generating opposition for the same reasons. As Maier detailed, amendments recommended in the course of the ratification debates in the states helped form the Bill of Rights.

The work was named one of the top 10 books of 2010 by The Wall Street Journal; Gordon Wood, an American historian at Brown University, called it a "wonderful contribution" to the field, while Richard Beeman, a historian at the University of Pennsylvania, said it "will stand as the definitive account of the story of the ratification of the Constitution for many decades to come." The work also won the Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award.

History for everyone

Maier's books were intended for both general and scholarly audiences, and she invested additional effort in furthering public understanding of history. She authored "The American People: A History" (1986), a middle-school textbook covering American history from its

beginnings through 1984. She also co-authored a 2002 college textbook, "Inventing America: A History of the United States," with Merritt Roe Smith of MIT, Alex Keyssar of Harvard, and Daniel Kevles of Yale University.

In addition to her books and textbooks, Maier produced more than 30 articles published in scholarly journals, edited volumes, and other publications, and wrote book reviews for publications including The New York Times Book Review and the William and Mary Quarterly.

Maier received prestigious fellowships and grants including the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship and multiple fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1998, Maier won MIT's James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award, which recognizes extraordinary professional accomplishment and is given to one faculty member each year.

Maier's work, prodigious energy for teaching, and commitment to frank truth-seeking in the public sphere made a lasting impression on those who knew her.

"Her scholarship, perspective, personality and dedication made her a remarkable MIT citizen," former MIT President Charles M. Vest said. "Her historical writing displayed first-rate research but also was highly accessible and readable. I used to kid her because she once gave a lecture at the University of Virginia ('Mr. Jefferson's University'), the thesis of which was that Jefferson is our most overrated president. Now that is sticking your neck out."

Reprinted with permission of MIT News Office: <http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/>.

IMC Global Inc. is offering a position of
Payment Clerk and Office Assistance where you can earn extra
income at your flexible schedule plus benefits that take only a little of
your time

Requirements:

- * Must have access to the internet
- * Must be efficient and dedicated

Send your resumes to hrimcglobalinckbates@gmail.com
This great opportunity is limited.

Graduate
Orientation

OLYMPICS

2013

unhockey
frisbee
soccer
volleyball
athletics

badminton
bodgeball

Sept. 3

Reg: 1:30 pm*

Games: 2pm - 7pm

(Refreshments will be served)

Dinner: 7pm

Brigg's Field,

*Zesiger Sports Center (W35)

Event sponsored by

Graduate Student Council

TANG HALL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

shedownhouse

Sydney Pacific

<http://gsc.mit.edu/orientation2013/calendar/calendar9-3.html>

Presidential Advisory Committee published report

Recommendations to Reif center around three themes to improve the MIT experience

PTAC, from Page 1

tified by the President concerning the student body,” according to the PAC’s charge.

In 1992, the UA Council created a “Presidential Advisory Committee” of undergraduates that was to meet biweekly and include the executive officers of the UA, the UA Council floor leader, chairmen of UA standing committees, and presidents of the Interfraternity Council, Dormitory Council, and Panhellenic Association — but the PAC is the first Institute Committee where “students will be given a direct channel to advise the MIT President directly on student issues,” according to the GSC’s call for applications.

While the PAC will advise Reif going forward, the PTAC’s report — coauthored by Bryan D. Bryson G, Jonté D. Craighead ’13, Dighe, Alexandra L. Ghaben ’13, Angela E. Kilby G, Catherine A. Olsson ’12,

Eduardo Russian ’13, and Brian L. Spatocco G — identified several Institute-wide issues to address.

On MIT’s educational experience, the PTAC’s list of concerns included the inconsistent quality of advising as a problem for both undergraduates and graduate students. Undergraduates, according to the report, often encountered

The report recommended a formalized system of evaluation for academic advisors.

advisors who “lack adequate understanding of Institute requirements and policies,” and graduate advising varies widely by the individual advisors. The report recommended a formalized evaluation system for advisors, much like the

subject evaluation system. Looking to what comes after MIT, the PTAC also reported a strong campus sentiment that career fairs and Global Education & Career Development (GECD) resources are “disproportionately focused on Course 6.”

In the community arena, undergraduate skepticism of Institute administration and perception of recent actions impacting living communities featured prominently in the report. “Undergraduates feel very strongly about the autonomy and personality of their living groups,” wrote the PTAC, “and as a result view with great skepticism recent Institute-wide policies that are perceived as interfering in a top-down manner with the existing system of self-determination.” To address these and other issues in student-administration communication, the PTAC suggested a rough framework for transparency in future engagements.

Additionally, in line with increased mental health concerns in the MIT community over the past couple years, the PTAC reported

The PTAC report recommended prioritization of deferred maintenance of current MIT residences.

that students are often unclear on mental health policies, the report read, and their experiences with Student Support Services (S³) vary widely. As such, the cabinet recommended the creation of a Standing Committee on Mental Health and initiatives to remove campus stigma around asking for help.

Regarding the design of MIT’s campus, the report discussed the availability and quality of both undergraduate and graduate housing. As several dormitory buildings have suffered from HVAC, structural, and facade problems,

among other costly maintenance issues, the PTAC recommended prioritization of deferred maintenance of current MIT residences.

For graduate students, the cabinet urged action to “ensure sufficient affordable housing,” a topic that has been debated throughout the course of MIT’s Kendall Square rezoning petition. With Kendall Square, the PTAC also suggested an improved east entrance to the MIT campus, both “aesthetically and metaphorically.” Steps have already been taken on that front by a faculty design committee, and design firms will vie for the opportunity to work with an MIT working committee to create an eastern MIT gateway.





Want to gain marketable job skills?

Join The Tech’s Technology department and learn how to use

- Linux
- Apache
- PHP
- Python
- Perl
- OSX
- MySQL
- and more!

E-mail
join@tech.mit.edu

Bose is pleased to offer special savings for all students, employees and retirees of **M.I.T.**

Receive savings on most Bose® products, including the acclaimed Wave® music system III, home entertainment systems, headphones and solutions for today’s most popular portable music devices.

NEW

Bose Wave® music system III

Enjoy lifelike CD and radio music in your home, office or dorm room. Awake to award-winning sound.

Bose SoundLink® Wireless Mobile speaker

Music. Whenever. Wherever. From your mobile phone or any Bluetooth® device.

Bose IE2 audio headphones


Enjoy music and calls with high-quality audio. StayHear® tips for greater stability during exercise and other activities.

Please direct all inquiries to the “M.I.T. Purchase Program.”

1-800-298-BOSE
(2673)

BOSE
Better sound through research

Time Arc



Time Arc

A tale of time travel

A tale of global warming

http://TimeArc.us

Do you enjoy interacting with many different people on a daily basis??

Do you want the great feeling of helping people every day??

Then this may be the right opportunity for you!

We are currently seeking experienced people for registration in the following areas:

Accounts Payable

Accounts Receivable

Payroll Staff

Bookkeeping

Office Managers (accounts based)

Contact summittools@gmail.com for more info.

©2012 Bose Corporation. Delivery is subject to product availability. The Bluetooth® word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc., and any such use by Bose Corporation is under license.

Summer news stories: what you missed while away

Developments in the Swartz case, new backup childcare program, dorm security changes

Summer recap, from Page 1

the defense for documents and witnesses.

However, the report acknowledged that “neutrality in responses was not consistent with neutrality in outcomes,” and explained that MIT also voluntarily handed over some documents to the prosecution but not the defense, operating under the asymmetric assumption that the defense would get documents from the prosecution.

But critics of MIT are troubled by more than the specifics of the report’s narrative, with some arguing that MIT’s overall inaction was negligent, or worse.

Taren Stinebrickner-Kauffman, Swartz’s partner, called the report a “whitewash,” saying in a statement that MIT did actually pick a side — the wrong one. “MIT’s lawyers gave prosecutors total access to witnesses and evidence, while refusing access to Aaron’s lawyers to the exact same witnesses and evidence,” she wrote. “That’s not neutral.” Others, including Ethan Zuckerman, director of MIT Center for Civic Media and Charlie Furman, campaign manager at Demand Progress, an activist organization founded by Aaron Swartz, criticized the report as an opportunity for MIT to avoid negative publicity and its failure to name the decision-makers in MIT’s involvement as “hiding behind a bureaucratic structure.” Abelson defended this practice however: “We know that people have been threatened, so it’s no joke if you get your name in this report.”

“We are fully aware that [many] names are readily discoverable on the Internet. Even so, we see no

need to further erode their personal privacy,” an appendix to the report read.”

After reading the report, Reif said he thought MIT’s actions were “appropriate,” at the same time calling for a review of MIT’s policies on computer crime and electronic records. He also asked the provost and the faculty chair to “design a process of community engagement” to “explore” questions about intellectual property, technology, ethics, and hacker culture.

Additional Swartz evidence released

On Aug. 12, the Secret Service released 104 pages of its files on Swartz, at the request of a journalist. Delayed from the July 19 date initially ordered by the court, the pages chosen for release do not include any reference to MIT or JSTOR, as both had filed motions intervening in the public-records request in mid July, asking the court to allow MIT and JSTOR to review the documents and propose redactions.

The motions are similar to MIT and JSTOR’s March 29 requests in *U.S. v. Swartz* that some information, including the names of employees, be redacted in publicly released documents. The judge in that case ruled to allow the redactions.

The pages released by the Secret Service are but a sliver of its files on Swartz. The Secret Service has said that it has at least 14,500 pages possibly related to Swartz, and that it will take six months or more to process them.

Authorities seized Swartz’s blue metallic iPod during their investigations, among other electron-

ics, one document shows. Another document, a heavily redacted interview write-up, suggests that the Secret Service probed into Swartz’s Guerilla Open Access Manifesto, which argues for open access to scientific journals.

So far however, the largest collection of released documents related to the investigation and prosecution of Swartz is the one MIT released on July 30, as promised by President L. Rafael Reif in March after calls for transparency. The collection includes 3,756 pages of emails and materials shared with state and federal prosecutors, and 154 pages of emails and materials shared with Swartz’s defense.

The documents, in which most names of MIT employees are blacked out, include pictures of Swartz in the Building 16 closet where he hooked his laptop up to a network switch and downloaded millions of JSTOR research papers using a Python script in 2010 and 2011. Those actions, which disrupted MIT’s access to JSTOR for three days, led to 13 felony charges, pursued by what many saw as an overzealous federal prosecution.

Dorm security changes

This fall, residents of Baker, Maseeh, McCormick, Next House, Simmons and the graduate dorms Tang Hall and Westgate will see several changes to their dorms’ security policies. The security changes came about as a result of the 2010 security report authored by Professor Iain W. Stewart and Police Chief John DiFava after a robbery in Baker House in 2010.

As part of the first phase of security updates, students and guests will be required to undergo visual

verification before entering the dorm. To facilitate this, each building’s card scanner will be moved to the front desk. Before being permitted to enter the dorm, a student must scan their MIT ID, at which point their face will appear on a monitor for visual inspection. If a student does not have an ID, they may enter the dorm after providing their name and being compared to their photo.

Additionally, MIT Residential Life and Dining has hired professional desk attendants from security company AlliedBarton to handle all security responsibilities including tracking guests, and security cameras will be installed at the perimeters of each dorm. According to Henry J. Humphreys, senior associate dean of residential life and dining, the professional desk attendants will be at desk from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Students will still work at desk to deliver services such as checking out equipment. “We did not take away the student employment opportunity,” said Humphreys.

According to Humphreys, the hiring of outside security will have no impact on the existing Nightwatch program. “Nightwatch serves a slightly different function than the desk attendants. The desk attendant is a stationary post, whereas Nightwatch, in addition to sitting at the desk, have to make two rounds through the building. Plus, if there’s an emergency from inside the building, [the Nightwatch] has to go respond to the emergency,” said Humphreys. “The desk attendant, if there’s an emergency in the building, would contact the house team [and/or] call MIT police, but they would never leave their post.”

New backup child care program live

Starting July 1, 2013, undergraduate and graduate students with children were able to pre-register for the new subsidized backup child care program. The new program provides students with access to caregivers on a short notice through Parents in a Pinch, a national vendor for child care services. The program will run as a pilot until June 30, 2014, when it will be evaluated for renewal.

For up to 10 days of the fiscal year, students can use the backup child care service, which provides a nanny at a subsidized rate of \$5 per hour. Any days beyond the ten days cost \$18.50 per hour and a daily placement fee ranging from \$25 to \$50.

The program aims to give students more flexibility and relieve some of the stress that comes with balancing academics and disruptions to normal child care.


The Office of the Provost, MIT Work-Life Center, and Graduate Student Council (GSC) will fund the five-figure program. The GSC will provide \$38,000 from Career Fair profits, with additional funding provided by the provost. The GSC worked through the Office of the Dean of Graduate Education (ODGE) and Dean Christine Ortiz to obtain the additional funding needed from the provost, with support of Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD ’80.

“Hopefully it will be a long-term program. We think it will be able to touch everybody in a way other programs don’t do as easily,” said Simons. “I think it’s going to one of those programs that will be kept.”

Summaries compiled by Deborah Chen.

JOIN THE CREDIT UNION
REVOLUTION

© CUSWAG.COM



Credit Unions
vs Big Banks

Learn the difference.

STUDENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Thursday, August 29th | Stata Center, Building 32 - Room 123

Session 1: 2:00pm-2:30pm


Session 2: 2:30pm-3:00pm

Topics include:

- Why joining a credit union is a smart choice
- “Banking Basics” - how to set up and use savings accounts, checking accounts, and debit cards
- How to bank with MITFCU on-campus and off-campus
- VISA® credit cards and other loan options
- How to join & get started

mitfcu.org | 617-253-2845

Student Center Branch, W20 | Tech Square Branch, NE48



The smart money
Federally Insured by NCUA